

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Lee Wright on 03/23/2010.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (line 5) – “coating an aqueous liquid containing an adhesive on a surface” should be – coating an aqueous liquid containing a polyvinyl alcohol based adhesive on a surface--.

Claim 1 (line 13) – “coating an aqueous liquid containing an adhesive on a surface” should be – coating an aqueous liquid containing a polyvinyl alcohol based adhesive on a surface--.

Claim 1 (line 21) – “coating an aqueous liquid containing an adhesive on a surface” should be – coating an aqueous liquid containing a polyvinyl alcohol based adhesive on a surface--.

Claim 1 (line 24) – “polarizer and the adhesive on a surface of the polarizer” should be – polarizer and the adhesive on a surface of the transparent protective film --.

Claim 4 - should be cancelled.

Claim 5 (line 1) – “according to claim 4” should be –according to claim 1--.

Claim 11 (line 5) - “coating an aqueous liquid containing an adhesive on a surface” should be – coating an aqueous liquid containing a polyvinyl alcohol based adhesive on a surface--.

Claim 11 (line 6) - “coating an aqueous liquid containing an adhesive on a surface” should be – coating an aqueous liquid containing a polyvinyl alcohol based adhesive on a surface--.

2. Claims 1-3, 5-7, 9, and 11-26 are allowed over the prior art of record in light of the arguments/amendments submitted 03/04/2010 and the examiner's amendment approved 03/23/2010.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

4. The closest prior art of record is Higashio (US 2003/0072078) which discloses the general method of adhering a transparent film to a polarizer to make a polarizing plate. Higashio does not disclose the appropriate thickness nor the application of an aqueous liquid to the interface after the formation of the adhesive layer. There is nothing in the prior art that would have suggested that adding water to the preformed adhesive layer of Higashio would allow an ordinary skilled artisan to be able to use an adhesive thickness reduced by over a factor of three (nanometer range rather than micrometer range) from Higashio's lowest disclosed thickness and still obtain good characteristics in terms of light leakage, durability and fault appearances. Absent further guidance from the prior art it would not have been obvious to have combined prior art elements in such a way to arrive at the present invention. There is also no teaching that either discloses or suggests adding the crosslinking agent to the aqueous liquid.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MICHAEL N. ORLANDO whose telephone number is (571) 270-5038. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday, 7:30am-4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Philip C. Tucker can be reached on (571) 272-1095. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

MO

/Philip C Tucker/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1791